

Public Programming?

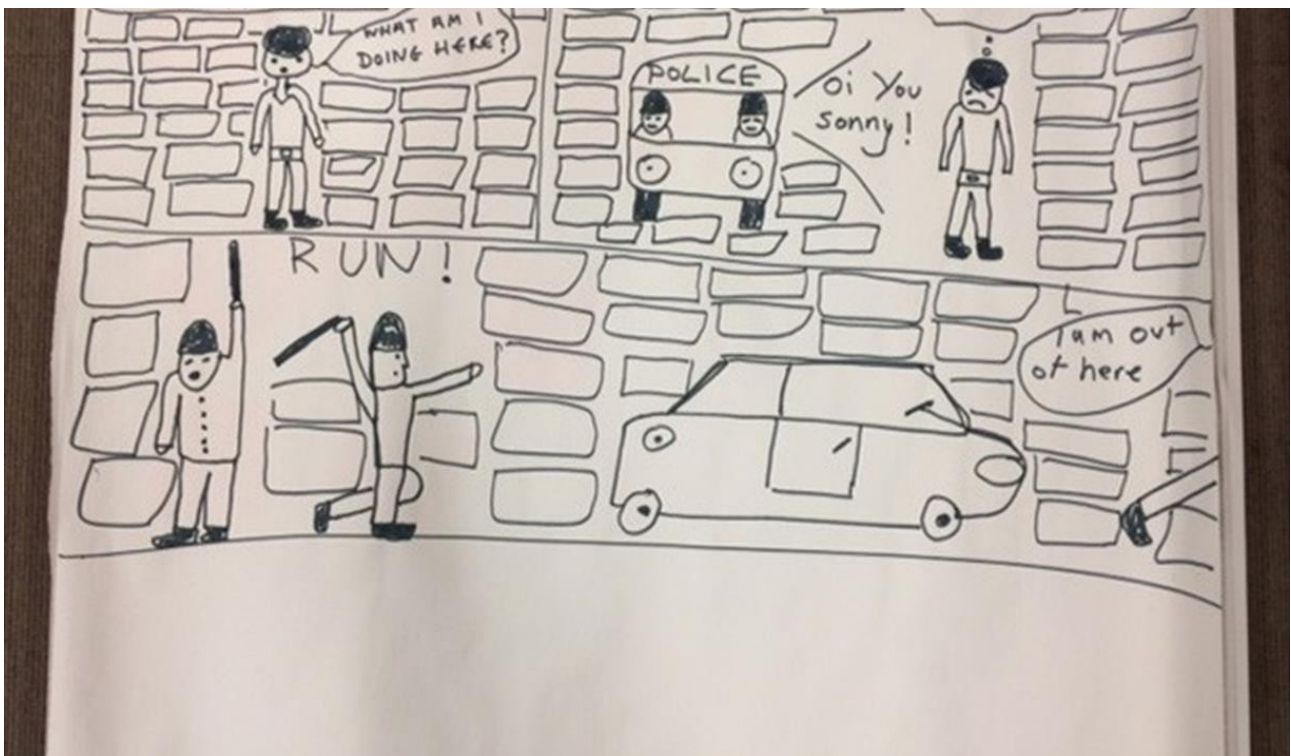
Social movements and solidarity

Thursday 20th July 2017

Study Day - 11am-5pm

Public Discussion & Film Screening - 6pm-8.30pm

Venue: Nottingham Contemporary



This event will be presented in two parts, starting with a Study Day and culminating with a Public Discussion & Film Screening.

Speakers: **Felicity Allen** | **Jesús Carrillo** | **Tomislav Medak** | **Maddalena Fragnito & Camilla Pin Montagnana** | **Gigi Argyropoulous**

This study day is organized by **Valeria Graziano** (Middlesex University London), **Janna Graham** and **Susan Kelly** (Goldsmiths, University of London), **Alba Colomo** and **Mercè Santos** (Nottingham Contemporary).

Public programming can be equally aligned with radical experiment in pedagogy and the disconnected neoliberal staging of critical content at a strategic distance from the sites where these discussions might provoke social and political change. While this notion conjures up the ultimate democratic image of a public debate, on the other it can also perform itself as one of the symptoms

of a post-democratic impasse traversing contemporary cultural institutions, where ideas discussed find no real support for becoming operative.

Following a first meeting at Middlesex University, this second gathering considers the specific prospects and contradictions opened up when public programming intersects with social movements. As the influence of Occupy, M15, BLM and other social movements placed new democratic demands on the so-called art-world, the way these can be picked up might shift, from formalist appropriations to more congruent attempts to learn new ways of producing public discourse. By bringing into dialogue practitioners from Southern Europe and the UK, this study day will ask how can cultural workers begin to refuse, to formulate demands, to organise and move from the programming of political content to the production of new forms of intervention and solidarity?

Study Day

11am-5pm, The Studio

By bringing into dialogue practitioners from Southern Europe and the UK, this study day will ask how can cultural workers begin to refuse, formulate demands, organise and move from the programming of political content to the production of new forms of intervention and solidarity.

Speaker Biographies

Felicity Allen is an artist and writer who has worked through many areas of education over four decades. As well as Education (Documents of Contemporary Art, Whitechapel/MIT 2011), her article Situating Gallery Education (2008) was the first of five on the subject, for which her guest scholarship at the Getty Research Institute (2011) was catalytic. In 2016 she completed a PhD by Public Works which drew from the wide range of her practice, including gallery education. While running education at Tate Britain (2003–2010) she curated Nahnou-Together Now (2008) from a durational project with artists and young people in Damascus, Amman and London. She is currently completing a video-based work with an artist and former colleague from that partnership who still lives in Damascus.

Jesús Carrillo is lecturer in the Art History Department of the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid since 1997. Head of the Cultural Programs Department of the Museo Reina Sofía from 2008 to 2015, and General Director of Cultural Programs and Activities of Madrid City Council from 2015 to 2016. Graduate in Art History (Murcia University), M.A. in Historical Studies (The Warburg Institute) and Ph.D. in History (Cambridge University, King's College). Research fellow at the Huntington Library, Jonathan Brown Library, and the Anthropology Department, CSIC (Madrid). Member of the Project team of L'Internationale network from 2013 to 2015. Combines the history of early modern representations of nature and technology and their relationships with imperial powers, with the critical analysis of contemporary art institutions and narratives.

Valeria Graziano is a cultural theorist, practitioner and educator whose research is mainly concerned with inventing postwork alternatives. She is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Middlesex University. Valeria co-directed Summer Drafts - Laboratories of Transversal Vivacity and is active within the Micropolitics Research Group and the Radical Education Forum.

Tomislav Medak is co-ordinating theory and publishing activities of the Multimedia Institute/MAMA in Zagreb. He is a free software advocate and a digital librarian for the Public Library/Memory of the World. Over years he has (co-)organised talks, publications and conferences in contemporary philosophy, political economy of digital culture and the commons. His recent scholarship has focused on structural unevenness of technological development and post-capitalist transition. He's the author of chapbooks *The Hard Matter of Abstraction – A Guidebook to Domination by Abstraction* (Stuttgart, 2016) and *Shit Tech for A Shitty World* (Ljubljana, 2015). He has co-edited together with Marcell Mars *Public Library* (Zagreb, 2015). In parallel, Tomislav is working with the Zagreb-based experimental theatre collective BADco. as a performer, dramaturge and director.

Maddalena Fragnito is a visual artist and cultural activist. Her research focuses on models of cultural production and on new forms of communication as a vehicle for transformation and political debate. She's a co-founder of Macao (2012), the new center for art and culture in Milan, Soprasotto (2012), an experimental school for kids and Landscape Choreography (2012), an art collective. Since 2014, she's been working with *mare culturale urbano*, a cultural center based in Milan.

Camilla Pin Montagnana is an independent researcher and cultural activist based in Milan, Italy. Her research focuses on new institutions, forms of cultural work and relationship between art and activism in the field of communication, new media and visual arts.

She is co-founder of S.a.L.E. Docks (2007), an independent space for arts and politics in the heart of Venice and Macao (2012), New Center for Arts, Culture and Research in Milan. From 2013 she is member of the editorial board of *Eterotopia France*. Since 2014, she work with *mare culturale urbano*, a cultural center based in Milan.

Maddalena Fragnito and **Camilla Pin** are part of [Macao](#) (Nuovo Centro per le Arti, la Cultura e la Ricerca), an independent center for art, culture and research based in Milan.

Gigi Argyropoulou is a researcher, curator, artist and theorist working in the fields of performance and cultural practice based in Athens and London. Gigi has initiated and organised festivals, conferences, performances, actions and cultural collaboration projects both inside and outside institutions. She is a founding member of Green Park, Mavili Collective, Institute for Live Arts Research, Kolektiva Omonia and F2 Performance Unit/Mkultra. As a member of Mavili and other collectives Gigi co-initiated/organised occupations, interventions, programmes and cultural critique actions during the crisis. a researcher, curator, artist and theorist working in the fields of performance and cultural practice based in Athens and London. Gigi has initiated and organised festivals, conferences, performances, actions and cultural collaboration projects both inside and outside institutions. She is a founding member of Green Park, Mavili Collective, Institute for Live Arts Research, Kolektiva Omonia and F2 Performance Unit/Mkultra. As a member of Mavili and other collectives Gigi co-initiated/organised occupations, interventions, programmes and cultural critique actions during the crisis.

Public Discussion & Film Screening

Presentations by guest speakers from the Study Day followed by a discussion and screening of *Alcaldessa (Ada for Mayor)*, a documentary following the steps of activist Ada Colau, from her time organising the anti-eviction protests in Spain to becoming Barcelona's mayor.